



qld leadership

a leadership development program of the girls' brigade queensland

GENERAL INFORMATION

What is Leadership? The **Leadership Development Course** conducted by The Girls' Brigade Queensland is all about personal challenge and providing opportunities for participants to develop/improve skills and practices that enhance their ability to be effective Christian leaders in Brigade and their community.

Each activity/session has been included in the Course program as part of recognising the GB aim: *To help girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and through self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life.*

'**Leadership**' (as the Course has become known) is highly regarded by participants, their parents and their Brigade Companies, and in the wider community by Churches, Church leaders and employers.

Key elements of the Course...

- Creation of a climate that encourages stimulation of personal growth and development
- Servant Leadership
- Group/team building and working
- Challenge – spiritual, physical, social, personal
- Development of leadership and practical skills
- Course staff as role models
- Fun!

Course Overview...

Leadership is based on a stepped approach where each stage builds on the last.

Stage 1

- Participants are assigned to groups of approx. eight with a permanent Group Facilitator. Most participants have not met before the Course and generally participants from the same company will be split up.
- Focuses on 'Who am I', exploring personality and leadership styles, and development of leadership skills (including communication, problem solving and decision making).
- Concentrates overall on working together in a Group and developing some understanding of teamwork and group dynamics.
- Participants undertake a short journey and overnight campout, as part of the development of teamwork.
- Eight days duration.

Stage 2

- Builds on the Stage 1 experience and focuses on 'Who am I in God', personal decision making, future planning and relationships.
- Major activity is a three-day/night campout known as ECHO (**E**ncountering **C**hrist **H**eart **O**pen).
- Encourages the participant to look outwards beyond herself to see her place and ministry in her community.
- Nine days duration.

Stage 3

- Builds on the content, relational and spiritual aspects of the previous stages.
- Focuses on 'Who am I in the World'.
- Encourages participants to develop an understanding of their purpose in God and his world, by providing opportunities to experience community living, peer mentoring and self-reflection, spiritual formation, and corporate prayer.
- Nine days duration

Who can attend Leadership?

The Course is open to young women from the year they turn 15. This includes young women who are already leaders.

There are no GB program pre-requisites to attending the Course (badges, PLTs etc.) but to be able to participate fully, participants will need to have reached in their own development a level of personal maturity and behavioural stability that enables them to operate in a Group - working together. If they are a bit shy or under-confident, that's OK, and the Course will assist in the development of skills and confidence. Also keep in mind that it is a very busy week.

We see Leadership as 'SERVING'. So the Stages of the Course are based on the assumption that all participants are able to live together in a small community that cares enough for one another to share and serve and thus encourage one another to successfully rise to new challenges.

For GB members, Captains are asked to certify to the readiness of a participant for the Course in accordance with the above criteria. We rely on your expert judgment here – you see these young women week in, week out.

Why is Leadership called a “course” and not a “camp”?

Leadership is all about personal challenge and providing opportunities for participants to develop/improve skills and practices that enhance their ability to be effective Christian leaders. Leadership is **not** a holiday activity camp. Leadership is an experience of fun, friendship and challenge from which participants will go home with new skills and probably having made changes to their daily lives.

What do participants say about the Course?

Stage 1 ... *“a fun, awesome, challenging, and life changing experience – I have made some fantastic friends!”*

... *“Something that you can do that helps you to deepen your faith in Christ with other Christians around you helping you and encouraging you. It is also a place where you make meaningful and deep relationships with others that you will value and treasure well into the future.”*

... *“I think I have grown spiritually this week and I really want to focus on God more in my daily life. I think I sometimes need to stop and listen more and the Course has helped me to do that.”*

Stage 2 ... *“I never knew that I could actually achieve something that I have desired for so long in such a short space of time.”*

... *“A week with others from around Australia, encountering God, growth and new friendships through challenges, amazing sessions, the best worship sessions and close proximity with God and other young women.”*

“I would describe it as a course which helps to equip you to be the most effective Christian leader in your own community by just getting back to the basics and focusing on God. It also is not just all about one week, its about continuing change beyond that week so people can continue to refocus and develop over time.”

Stage 3 ... *“I've learnt more about God and Jesus than I ever have before and I want to learn more!”*

... *“There is plenty of room for me to grow spiritually, mentally and physically. This week has set me on a path to be able to do this. I will be benefited through the accountability of my trio and mentor.”*

... *“An amazing opportunity to retreat from the world to learn about yourself and God. The course is the perfect environment for growth and filled with loving people.”*